

Message Text

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72

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /068 W

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R 061635Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1742

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 08646

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PDIP, EG, UK

SUBJECT: CHANGE OF EGYPTIAN AMBASSADORS

1. ADDRESSEES MAY ALREADY BE AWARE THAT EGYPT'S CONTROVERSIAL NON-CAREER AMBASSADOR, LIEUTENANT GENERAL SAAD MOHAMED EL HUSSEINI EL-SHAZLY IS LEAVING SOON TO OPEN THE NEW EGYPTIAN EMBASSY IN LISBON. HE WILL BE REPLACED BY THE EGYPTIAN CAREER AMBASSADOR IN TEHRAN (WHOSE NAME WE RECALL BEING GIVEN AS SALEH ANWAR).

2. THIS INFORMATION FIRST CAME OUR WAY FROM ISRAELI EMBASSY SOURCES. BOTH THEY AND THE FCO OFFICIALS WHO COVER THE AREA EXPRESSED A HIGH OPINION OF THE PROFESSIONAL ABILITIES OF THE NEW MAN COMING FROM TEHRAN. SHAZLY IS REPORTED TO BE TAKING THE VIEW THAT APPOINTMENT TO A NEW EMBASSY IN A POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT SUCH AS PORTUGAL'S MUST CERTAINLY REPRESENT A PROMOTION.

3. COMMENT: WE SUSPECT PRESIDENT SADAT'S OWN RELIEF IS SCARCELY LESS THAN THAT OF SHAZLY'S BRITISH HOSTS--AND ISRAELI ENEMIES--AT THE REMOVAL OF SUCH AN EXPLOSIVE
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UNGUIDED MISSILE FROM A POST AS IMPORTANT AS LONDON. IN

PORTUGAL SHAZLY WILL PRESUMABLY FIND MORE CONVIVIAL SPIRITS IN THE RADICAL OFFICERS WHO LEAD THE COUNTRY'S REVOLUTION, AS WELL AS THE SOCIALIST AND OTHER LEFT-WING THINKERS WHO DOMINATE THE CURRENT POLITICAL SCENE. GENIAL, ENERGETIC SHAZLY, WHO IS A FORMER EGYPTIAN ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF, MIGHT BECOME QUITE INFLUENTIAL IN SUCH CIRCLES AND SHOULD NOT BE IGNORED BY EMBASSY LISBON WHEN HE ARRIVES LATER THIS SUMMER. THE EMBASSY OFFICER WHO FOLLOWS EGYPTIAN DEVELOPMENTS HERE (LAMBRAKIS) HAS ALWAYS ENJOYED A GOOD BACK-THUMPING RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM--EVEN THOUGH THIS HAS NOT LED TO ANY USEFUL DIPLOMATIC EXCHANGES.

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